GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:765
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2005
GLOBAL WARMING AND CLIMATE CHANGE
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Pune based Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology and UK`s Hadley Centre for Climate Prediction and Research have through a joint study predicted that global warming will adversely affect agriculture, bio-diversity, disease pattern and water availability in India;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the extent to which Indian agriculture and ecology is likely to adapt to these changes; and

(d) the strategy evolved to meet the challenges of global warming?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRINAMONARAINMEENA)

(a) The Indo-UK study `Investigating the impacts of Climate Change in India` shows that climate change represents an additional stress on ecological and socio-economic systems including agriculture, biodiversity, disease pattern and water availability in the country already facing pressure due to urbanization, industrialization and other economic activities.

(b)&(c) The existing policy framework in India together with wide-ranging reforms aimed at accelerated economic growth relating to energy efficiency, energy conservation, power sector reforms, an active renewable energy programme, fuel switching to cleaner energy, afforestation and conservation of forests; steps to encourage efficient utilization of coal; reduction of gas flaring and installation of waste heat recovery systems in the oil sector; standardization of fuel-efficient irrigation pump-sets, rectification of existing pump-sets to make them more energy efficient, rationalization of power tariffs and better cultivar practices in the agriculture sector etc. address the greenhouse gas emissions in the country. In so far as adaptation to climate change is concerned, various initiatives had been taken by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) and Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) in case of agriculture and forestry sectors to adapt to likely climate change in different eco-systems.

(d) The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol are two multilateral environmental agreements addressing the issues related to climate change. India is a Party to both these agreements and is fulfilling its obligations in terms of inventorization of Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the specified sectors. As of now developed countries (Annex I) have obligations under the Kyoto Protocol to reduce their GHG emissions while there is no such obligation on developing countries.